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DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 9 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have pleasure in transmitting to you herewith the communiqué from the Government of Guatemala containing a clear recognition of the State of Belize and referring to the significant progress towards reaching a final solution of the dispute between Guatemala and Belize; it reads as follows:

"The Government of the Republic of Guatemala declares that the recent decision by the State of Belize to limit its territorial sea and its zone of exclusive economic exploitation makes it clear to the Government of Guatemala that the right of the Republic of Guatemala to its own territorial sea on the Caribbean coast and to its own exclusive economic zone is guaranteed.

"Similarly, the Government of Guatemala welcomes the statement by Belize assuring Guatemala permanent access to the Caribbean Sea from El Petén department and use and development of port facilities in the State of Belize, and also the right to participate in the joint exploitation of areas of Belize's zone of exclusive economic exploitation for their mutual benefit.

* A/46/150.

"In view of the foregoing, the Government of Guatemala expresses its readiness to pursue direct discussions with the independent State of Belize in order to reach a final solution to the dispute, thereby enabling us to live in peace and harmony as neighbouring countries and to move ahead with the development of our peoples.

"The Government of Guatemala considers that the momentous strides made within the framework of international law are a major contribution to the joint effort to bring peace and stability to our region.

Guatemala, 5 September 1991"

I should be grateful if you would have this communiqué circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 137 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN DE LEON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative